

# CJCP® Spotlight



**Stephen J. Catullo, MA, MBA, CJCP**  
Associate Executive Director  
Quality Management & Regulatory Affairs  
Coler Rehabilitation and Nursing Care Center  
NYC Health & Hospitals  
New York, NY

**Q: What are the most important benefits of being a CJCP?**

**A:** As someone who has worked in health care for 28+ years across the entire continuum of care (with the last 14 years in quality assurance/performance improvement/regulatory affairs in both long-term acute care hospitals and nursing care centers), I had a strong working knowledge of The Joint Commission's regulations prior to becoming a CJCP. However, preparing for and obtaining the CJCP certification gave me the opportunity to build upon my existing knowledge of the regulations, achieve greater clarity on the ones which I do not encounter on a frequent basis, and develop a greater self-confidence in understanding the interconnection between The Joint Commission and CMS regulations.

**Q: You act as one of our CJCP Mentors. What is the most common question you hear when speaking with candidates?**

**A:** As a CJCP Mentor, the most frequently-asked topic has been strategies for preparing for the certification exam (for example, study materials used; time commitment to adequately prepare for the exam; what would I do differently in preparing for the exam now that I know the types of questions asked).

**Q. What advice would you give to a new accreditation manager?**

- A.** Continuous education is the key to becoming a successful accreditation manager. Become involved in local, state, and national professional health care organizations. Attend seminars. Lead Joint Commission study groups at your worksite. Read, read, read everything you can regarding CMS, Joint Commission, and state accreditation rules and regulations. Subscribe to chat groups and other online services that provide continuous regulatory updates. Become a mentor. Earn your CJCP certification.

**Q. What is the number one challenge you encounter every day?**

- A.** Assimilating the ever-growing abundance of information regarding new and changing regulatory standards, and educating staff on the (changing) regulations in a way that enhances patient care, results in regulatory compliance, and does not overwhelm the care providers.

For more information on CJCP Certification, please visit [www.jcrinc.com/cjcp-certification/](http://www.jcrinc.com/cjcp-certification/).